

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 043644
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S - MR. TARNOFF
S/S - MR. BRIDGES

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TO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST PRIORITY
INFO WHITE HOUSE PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 043644

NODIS
WHITE HOUSE FOR DR. BRZEZINSKI

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OVIP, RO

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT'S MEETING WITH ROMANIAN SPECIAL
EMISSARY

REF: STATE 032933, BUCHAREST 1068

1. THERE WERE NO SURPRISES DURING A CORDIAL FORTY-MINUTE MEETING BETWEEN THE PRESIDENT AND PRESIDENT CEAUSESCU'S SPECIAL EMISSARY, VASILE PUNGAN. SECRETARY VANCE, NSC ADVISER BRZEZINSKI, NSC STAFF MEMBER HYLAND AND ROMANIAN AMBASSADOR NICOLAE ALSO ATTENDED.
2. SPEAKING FROM NOTES, PUNGAN COVERED SEVERAL SUBJECTS IN BRIEF COMPASS INCLUDING MFN, NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY COOPERATION,
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INDUSTRIAL COPRODUCTION, AND LIBERALIZATION OF US LEGISLATION TO PERMIT ROMANIAN EXPORTS. PRESIDENT QUESTIONED WHETHER US LEGISLATION POSED REALLY SERIOUS OBSTACLES TO TRADE AND UNDERTOOK TO LOOK INTO IT. ON HUMAN RIGHTS, PUNGAN EXPRESSED UNHAPPINESS WITH NEWSPAPER REFERENCES TO ARRESTS OF ROMANIAN DISSIDENTS BECAUSE NO ONE HAD BEEN ARRESTED. PRESIDENT SAID HE HAD READ PRESIDENT CEAUSESCU'S

SPEECH AND HUMAN RIGHTS WAS A SERIOUS SUBJECT. PUNGAN SAID ROMANIA UNDERSTOOD US CONCERN FOR HUMAN RIGHTS. HE MENTIONED THE NEED TO PROVIDE A DECENT EXISTENCE FOR PEOPLE

AND REFERRED TO 5,300 APPROVALS FOR EMIGRATION (TIME PERIOD NOT CLEAR). PUNGAN ALSO HANDED PRESIDENT A LETTER FROM CEAUSESCU. PRESIDENT THANKED FOR THE LETTER AND SAID HE WOULD REPLY TO IT.

3. ON CSCE, PUNGAN SAID ROMANIA WANTS CLOSE COOPERATION WITH THE US BEFORE THE BELGRADE FOLLOW-ON MEETINGS. ON THE MIDDLE EAST, PUNGAN SAID ROMANIA HAS GOOD CONTACTS WITH GOVERNMENTS IN THE AREA AS WELL AS WITH THE PLO. ON DISARMAMENT, ROMANIA WOULD LIKE TO HAVE DISCUSSIONS WITH US ON QUESTIONS WHICH WOULD COME AT UN SPECIAL SESSION ON DISARMAMENT. ON NORTH KOREA, PUNGAN INDICATED ROMANIA COULD ACT AS A CHANNEL BETWEEN US AND NORTH KOREA. PRESIDENT SAID IT WOULD BE UNFAIR TO SOUTH KOREAN PRESIDENT PARK FOR US TO COMMUNICATE SEPARATELY WITH NORTH KOREA.

4. PRESIDENT SAID US WANTED TO HAVE GOOD RELATIONS WITH ROMANIA AND HE LOOKED FORWARD TO MEETING PRESIDENT CEAUSESCU.
VANCE

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NNN

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